



Amputee
Society
of Canterbury &
Westland Inc.

Patron: Mr John McKie MB, ChB, FRACS.

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Quote of the Month:

If you look at what you have in life, you'll always have more. If you look at what you don't have in life, you'll never have enough.

-Oprah Winfrey

Fun Fact:

The word "burrito" means "little donkey" in Spanish.

In Uganda, around 48% of the population is under 15 years of age.

Editor's Message

Disclaimer: The information in this editorial does not necessarily reflect the views of the Amputee Society of Canterbury/Westland)

I thought this month's editorial was an opportune time to highlight the Peke Waihanga Peer Support program. What was the "norm" for people requiring assistance in the past was that societies around NZ were operating on a disjointed system whereby if a pre or post operative amputee who was seeking assistance happened to cross paths with "someone who knew someone who was an amputee", a meeting *might* take place. There was no consistency, no formal training, no database, and heaven knows what the support actually was. Back in 2018, a local amputee member had a vision for a nationwide Peer Support program based upon the successful Limbs4Life program set up by Melissa Noonan in Australia. An approach was made to Sean Gray, CEO of Peke Waihanga who convinced his board that this program would significantly add to the "wrap around" care of people within and on the fringes of the NZ amputee community. With funding from the Board secured, 18 months of detailed planning, meetings and training of health providers & volunteers resulted in the program going live in August of 2019 under the stewardship of Claire Rumble (PK) before Matthew Bryson took over as the Events & Peer Support Coordinator. The program has been an outstanding success and not only for the support provided to recipients but also for the many fringe benefits for the community by way of events provided. As a matter of interest, in the **12** months from July, 2024 to June, 2025, **1,234** recipients received support across NZ..a truly remarkable statistic. Of that number, NZ Europeans accounted for 62%, 22% Māori, 10% Pasifika and the remaining 6% were numerous ethnicities. This program offers superb value to our amputees.

MEET LISA GRAY:

Lisa was the first-born baby to her single mother in Howick, Auckland in 1970. Her mother had moved to Auckland where she had gained employment working as a caregiver & child minder but moved back to Christchurch to be reunited with Lisa's father when Lisa was only 6 weeks old. Her parents married and a sister was born in 1972 but the marriage ended a couple of years later after stints living in Kaikoura & Twizel. Lisa's Mum re-married when Lisa was around 11 years old and she has half siblings, Jared who lives in Hornby, along with Carma who resides on the West Coast.

Lisa grew up in Linwood and her schooling was at Woolston Primary before she moved on to Linwood High School when she met Darryn when they were around 15 years old. A friendship was formed and they are still together some 40 years later. She left school when she was 18 and worked in Darryn's mother's florist shop in Sumner for around 2 years before the shop was forced to close down.

Their first child, Mathew, was born in 1991 and Lisa was a stay-at-home Mum during the resulting pregnancies of Jordan in 1993, Taylor 1995 and Courtney 1999. Lisa had started work on the night shift at Foodstuffs while she was carrying Ashlea in 2004 but had to give up that role due to complications with her pregnancy. During the arrival of their five children, the family grew up in the suburb of Shirley while Darryn was involved in the building trade making wooden trusses. In 2005, Darryn decided to change his occupation and obtained a job working on a dairy farm in Takaka, Golden Bay where the family lived for the next two years. In 2007, the family were heading to Christchurch for a 10-day holiday when tragedy struck. Darryn had just had some repairs completed on the steering of his van and in his vehicle were Lisa, all the children as well as Darryn's father with her best friend, Sharon and her family in a separate vehicle following a few minutes behind. When they were around 5 kms west of the Boyle River, Darryn said that as he slowed for a bend, he turned the wheel and heard a loud "clunk". The van failed to respond and went straight across the road colliding head on with a 4-wheel drive vehicle from the opposite direction. It was a huge impact resulting in Darryn being trapped along with Lisa and injuries to most of the children. Luckily for the family, the first 2 people on scene were an off-duty paramedic and a theatre nurse who both took control of the accident scene and injured people. After about 30 minutes, the emergency services were able to cut the roof off the van and extricate the trapped people whereupon a helicopter airlifted Lisa straight to ChCh Public Hospital. Two other helicopters were used to also airlift the other injured people to hospital and a fourth helicopter from Nelson was on standby



LISA GRAY CONT:

if needed.

En route to the hospital, Lisa "passed away" several times but was able to be revived by the paramedics although when the helicopter landed in ChCh, they could not even register a blood pressure for Lisa. She was immediately attended to and admitted to ICU where she stayed for the next 42 days but after 2 weeks in ICU, a blood clot formed in her bowel then travelled down her left leg resulting in the circulation being cut off. A decision was quickly made to amputate her leg below the knee and Lisa did not even know what had transpired until she emerged from ICU another 4 weeks later and had to be told.

In 2009, the family had moved to Waikuku and Lisa was on the board of Wainoni Primary school where she obtained a teacher's aide position until the school was closed down due to a merger of some local schools nearly 2 years later. Since then, Lisa has had numerous roles with Woolworths in the last 10 years and is currently a supervisor in the deli at Woolworths, Waimakariri Junction while Darryn and her currently live in Rangiora township.

Since this fateful day in 2007, Lisa and the family have endured a long and hard recovery but they are all very thankful that they survived this terrible ordeal. Lisa & Darryn enjoy spending time with their children and 6 grandchildren and Lisa tries to put her disability out of the picture, meet challenges head-on and enjoy family life.

FAVOURITE FOOD: Anything aniseed based...and liquorice.

FAVOURITE PLACE: Toowoomba, Australia.

FAVOURITE MUSIC: Old style country & western music.

FAVOURITE MOVIE: Armageddon.

HOBBIES/ACTIVITIES: Reading murder mystery books.

Lisa & Darryn have travelled to Australia numerous times and are excitedly looking forward to a 14-day cruise out of Brisbane in 2027.

Lisa & Darryn in their front yard.

Lisa said the wording on Darryn's t-shirt is correct!!!

"My wife says I only have two faults...I DON'T LISTEN AND.. SOMETHING ELSE"



BORN TO ADAPT-CHRISTCHURCH EVENT:

I want to remind people of this event which is being held in ChCh in 3 weeks time. The event is open to **all** amputees **and** their families and registrations need to be with Matt Bryson by **February 14th**. Details of how to register are disclosed at the bottom of the text. Peke Waihanga are providing FREE food and refreshments to all attendees from a Food Truck so....see you there!!!

Born to Adapt Arrives in Christchurch!

Challenge yourself this summer with a run, jog or walk through the trails of Bottle Lake Forest on Saturday, 21 February 2026. Born to Adapt is coming to Christchurch for the first time! Open to people of all fitness levels, the event especially welcomes anyone with a limb difference or a disability. Born to Adapt is designed with you in mind.

It's a fantastic opportunity for locals to connect, enjoy the outdoors and test their limits. The Born to Adapt team will be there to support and encourage adaptive athletes to join in and have fun.

Where It Began

Born to Adapt first came to New Zealand in 2021 through the collaboration of Matthew Bryson (Matt) and Zachary Friedley (Zach). US-based race director Zach, who was born missing his right leg above the knee and fingers on one hand, noticed few adaptive runners at events. After raising the issue with Luis Escobar at the 2019 Born to Run race, they launched Born to Adapt in 2021 to make trail running more inclusive. Zach later connected with Matt, Peke Waihanga's Event and Peer Support Service Coordinator, to trial the event in Rotorua – and Born to Adapt NZ was "born."

Register Today

Born to Adapt welcomes all people from all walks of life to experience the thrill of trail running. Join us at Bottle Lake Forest, Christchurch, from 10 am – 1 pm, Saturday 21 February 2026. Register here: type this address in to your browser www.tinyurl.com/B2AChr.

Or contact Matthew Bryson matthew.bryson@nzals.co.nz. 022 1025697



2026 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

Sunday March 15th, 2026 @ The Cranford Alehouse AGM from 11am....meeting 11.15am

Due to the excessive charges for room hire by the Hornby Club, we will hold this years AGM at The Cranford Alehouse, at no cost to the society. The society will provide one free drink to those attending. Feel free to stay on for a meal afterwards if you wish. It would be great to see a good turnout to not only support your society but also to mingle/chat with your fellow members. Please advise of your intention to attend to Justine 021 1055189 or Mark 027 2381958 (email details back page) by **March 8TH.**

The image shows the text 'AGM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING' in a large, bold, red, 3D-style font. The letters are thick and have a slight shadow, giving them a three-dimensional appearance. The 'AGM' is significantly larger than the words 'ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING' which are stacked below it.

PLEASE SEE AN IMPORTANT NOTICE IN REGARDS TO THE AGM ON PAGE 6

Subscriptions Due:

A reminder that subscriptions (\$10) are now due and it would be appreciated if payment could be made at your earliest convenience. For those members receiving the newsletter via email, a subscription invoice will follow shortly and for those on the mailing list, you will have an invoice included with their newsletter. Payment can be made online by using internet banking or at any Westpac Branch (details on back page). If you wish to pay by cash, please contact Justine to arrange this. If making payment at the AGM or on your next visit to the Limb Centre, please put it in an envelope with your name as a reference. A receipt will be issued at a later date. We greatly appreciate your continued support of the society and your early attendance of this matter saves us a great deal of time in having to "chase" payment at a later date. **THANK YOU.** Please keep in mind that we are a registered charity, run by selfless volunteers who are doing what they do for the benefit of members and the entire amputee community.

AGM GUEST SPEAKER:

At the conclusion of our AGM, Bruce Morriss, a representative from CBMNZ (Christian Blind Mission NZ), will present a short introduction about what this not-for-profit organisation does around the world. CBM have a mission statement; *"Poverty and disability go hand in hand creating a cycle of inequality, isolation and exclusion that leads to the most extreme forms of poverty"*

Bruce has been involved for nearly 30 years in the charitable sector and will give an overview of CBM and their programmes along with some stories of those people CBM has assisted, some of which will have been amputees.

Bruce will then be available to take any questions from the audience at the end of his presentation.

NEW INCORPORATED SOCIETIES ACT 2022:

New Zealand's incorporated societies sector is undergoing its most significant legal reform in over a century. The Incorporated Societies Act 2022 replaces the Incorporated Societies Act 1908, modernising the legal, governance, and accountability framework for the country's 23,000+ incorporated societies. All existing societies must re-register under the new Act by **5 April 2026** or face removal from the register and loss of legal status. With the deadline approaching, it is vital for societies to understand the changes and take prompt action.

Why the Change?

The 1908 Act had become outdated, lacking clarity on governance, officers' duties, dispute resolution, and financial reporting. The 2022 Act addresses these gaps, codifies best practices, and aligns society governance with contemporary expectations. So, as a society, we need to approve a new constitution and formally agree to reregister under the 2022 Act.

Notice of Motion from the Committee

At the annual general meeting of the Society (AGM) to be held on Sunday 15 March 2026, the President, on behalf of the Committee, will move the following motion. That:

1. In accordance with rule 7.3 of the Constitution of the Society, the existing constitution of the Society be wholly replaced with the constitution set out in the document attached titled *Constitution of Amputee Society of Canterbury and Westland Incorporated*, * including any revisions to that document tabled and approved at the AGM; and
2. The Society reregisters under the Incorporated Societies Act 2022 (the 2022 Act) with the said constitution.

Recommendation from the Committee. *The committee recommends to every member of the Society that they exercise their vote in favour of this motion.*

*** For those receiving the newsletter by post, this document is 31 pages and is not included in this posting. A copy will be posted to you on request to the President, Mark Bruce, tel 027 238 1958. Please do not hesitate to request a copy. For those receiving the newsletter via email, an attachment with the new draft constitution will follow soon.**

BROTHER PRINTER FREE TO A GOOD HOME:

The society has a Brother printer/scanner that is surplus to our requirements so it is available to anyone that would like it. It is only a few years old but has had very little use so it is in excellent condition. It takes ink cartridges which will need to be replaced before use. Please make contact with Joanne on **027 2909246** or farmtree58@gmail.com if you would like it...**first in, first served.**



Smile Awhile

I don't know who
did this but I love it!



Such a special year
needed a Logo 🍷💚💜



Web Sites

**Amputee Society of
Canterbury & Westland Inc.**

www.amputeeinfo.co.nz

The Amputees Federation of NZ

www.amputee.co.nz

NZ Artificial Limb Service

www.nzals.govt.nz

Peer Support

www.peersupport.nz

Parafed Canterbury

www.parafedcanterbury.co.nz

International Diabetes Federation

www.idf.org

Amputee News

www.amputeenews.com

Disability Rights Commissioner

www.hrc.co.nz

UN Programme on Disability

www.un.org/issues/m-disabl.asp

Paraloan 03 3795983

www.paraloan.org.nz

Email: paraloan@xtra.co.nz

**Nation Wide H&D Advocacy
Service – 0800 555050**

**Aspire Canterbury,
Disabilities Information Service**

Braintree Wellness Centre. 70 Langdons Rd.
CHCH

Website: www.aspirecanterbury.org.nz

Total Mobility. Contact (03) 3669093

Email: admin@aspirecanterbury.org.nz

LifeLinks. 0800 866 877

Web: lifelinks.co.nz Email: office@lifelinks.co.nz



**CCS
disability action**

Including all people

TE HUNGA HAUĀ MAURI MŌ NGĀ TĀNGATA KĀTOA

CCS Disability Action

224 Lichfield St, Ch-Ch.

03 3655661/0800 2272255.

Email: canterbury@ccsdisabilityaction.org.nz

Amputee Society of Canterbury & Westland Inc.

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Other Committee Members

Vaughan Mangan-Woods
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Andrea Thompson, Ralph
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Mike Stead
022 0890926
mcstead1973@gmail.com

Prosthetic Advisor

Mark Hills
021 222 0663
markhillsy@icloud.com

Total Mobility Scheme

Agent: Aspire Canterbury
03 3666189
julie@aspirecanterbury.org.nz

Mobility Parking Permit

CCS Disability Action
03 365-5661/0800 2272255

Life Members

Liz Rogers Heather Plows
Ava Thomas Margaret Hunter
Mark Bruce

Peke Waihanga/Artificial Limb Service

330 Burwood Road, Ch-Ch
Phone 03-383-0501
Freephone 0508 383 383
Hours: 8.00am - 4.30pm
Office administrators

Lynleigh Ashcroft
Caroline Leaper
christchurch@nzals.co.nz

Amputee Society of Canterbury/Westland Inc

Westpac 03 0830 026 4400 00

Burwood Hospital Hydro Pool



Wed: 4-30pm-6-30pm
Sundays: 1pm – 2-30pm
This is with Parafed and there is a \$2.00 charge.



Christchurch City Council

Disability Golf NZ

For any enquiries about becoming involved, anywhere in NZ, please contact Andrew Woo, 021 885678
disabilitygolfnz@gmail.com



Need Computer Help ?

Contact Joanne for advice at very affordable rates.

www.computertutor.nz

Mobile 027 2909246

Home 942-5320

Our Sponsors:

